

3 associated with a first record in response to the first record being the most recently accessed
4 record in the result set.

1 51. (ADDED) The method of claim 27, wherein generating the result set includes
2 accessing a search request data structure that includes a plurality of search request records, each
3 including a search request parameter identifying a unique combination of keywords, and a result
4 set parameter identifying a subset of records in the database that match the unique combination
5 of keywords.

1 52. (ADDED) The method of claim 27, wherein ordering the identifications of the records
2 in the result set using the user feedback parameter associated with each record in the result set
3 includes:

4 (a) partitioning the result set into a plurality of relevance groups, with each
5 relevance group including identifications of records having like relevancies to the search
6 request; and

7 (b) sorting the identifications of records within each relevance group using the
8 weights from the user feedback parameters associated therewith.

1 53. (ADDED) The method of claim 27, wherein each record in the database includes a
2 Uniform Resource Identifier (URL) that identifies a document stored on a computer network,
3 wherein selectively updating the user feedback parameter includes selectively updating at least
4 one weight for the user feedback parameter associated with a first record in the database in
5 response to user interaction with the first record.

1 54. (ADDED) The method of claim 33, wherein generating the result set includes
2 generating at least one hypertext document including a plurality of hypertext links, each of which
3 configured to access a document identified by a record in the result set.

1 55. (ADDED) An apparatus, comprising:

2 (a) a memory within which is resident a plurality of records from a database, each
3 record associated with a user feedback parameter;

4 (b) a first program, resident in the memory, the first program configured to, in
5 response to a search request, generate a result set including identifications of a subset of
6 the plurality of records that match the search request, and to order the identifications of
7 the records in the result set using the user feedback parameter associated with each record
8 in the result set, wherein each user feedback parameter includes a plurality of weights,
9 wherein each weight is associated with a keyword, and wherein the first program is
10 configured to order the identifications of the records by using only those weights
11 associated with keywords that match the search request; and

12 (c) a second program, resident in the memory, the second program configured to,
13 for each of the plurality of records, selectively update the user feedback parameter
14 associated therewith in response to user interaction with the record.

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1 56. (ADDED) A program product, comprising:

2 (a) a first program configured to, in response to a search request, generate a result
3 set including identifications of a subset of a plurality of records in a database that match
4 the search request, and to order the identifications of the records in the result set using a
5 user feedback parameter associated with each record in the result set, wherein each user
6 feedback parameter includes a plurality of weights, wherein each weight is associated
7 with a keyword, and wherein the first program is configured to order the identifications of
8 the records by using only those weights associated with keywords that match the search
9 request;

10 (b) a second program configured to, for each of the plurality of records,
11 selectively update the user feedback parameter associated therewith in response to user
12 interaction with the record; and

13 (c) a signal bearing medium bearing the first and second programs.

1 57. (ADDED) The program product of claim 56, wherein the signal bearing medium
2 includes at least one of a recordable medium and a transmission type medium.

1 58. (ADDED) The method of claim 38, further comprising:

2 (a) for each of the plurality of records in the database, selectively updating a user
3 feedback parameter associated therewith in response to user interaction with the record;
4 and

5 (b) ordering the identifications of the subset of records in the result set using the
6 user feedback parameter associated with each record in the result set.

1 59. (ADDED) The method of claim 58, wherein the result set identifier for each search
2 request record further includes a copy of the user feedback parameter for each of the subset of
3 records identified thereby, and wherein selectively updating the user feedback parameter includes
4 updating each copy of the user feedback parameter in the search request data structure.

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1 60. (ADDED) The method of claim 59, wherein the result set identifier for each search
2 request record further includes a list of record identifiers, each of which identifying a record in
3 the associated subset of records, and each of which associated with the copy of the user feedback
4 parameter for the associated record, the method further comprising ordering the list of record
5 identifiers identified by the result set identifier of a first search request record based upon the
6 copies of the user feedback parameters associated with the subset of records.

1 61. (ADDED) The method of claim 60, wherein the search request data structure
2 comprises a table, wherein each search request record comprises an entry in the table, and
3 wherein the result set identifier for each search request record comprises a linked list of record
4 identifiers.

1 62. (ADDED) The method of claim 61, further comprising sorting the table entries
2 responsive to frequency of access thereto.

1 63. (ADDED) The method of claim 62, further comprising:

2 (a) adding a new entry to the table in response to receiving a search request not
3 matching any existing entry in the table; and

4 (b) removing an entry from the table in response to a frequency of access therefor
5 falling below a predetermined threshold.

1 Sub A3 64. (ADDED) An apparatus, comprising:

2 (a) a memory within which is resident a search request data structure, the search
3 request data structure including a plurality of search request records, each search request
4 record including a search request identifier identifying a unique combination of
5 keywords, and a result set identifier identifying a subset of a plurality of records in a
6 database that match the unique combination of keywords;

7 (a) a program, resident in the memory, the program configured to, in response to
8 a search request that specifies a plurality of keywords, search the search request data
9 structure to locate a search request record including a search request identifier that
10 matches the plurality of keywords in the search request, and to generate a result set
11 identifying the subset of records identified in the result set identifier in the located search
12 request record.

1 65. (ADDED) A program product, comprising:

2 (a) a memory within which is resident a search request data structure, ;

3 (a) a program configured to, in response to a search request that specifies a
4 plurality of keywords, search a search request data structure to locate a search request
5 record including a search request identifier that matches the plurality of keywords in the
6 search request, the search request data structure including a plurality of search request